

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended) A method for identifying compounds that inhibit the induction of human cyclooxygenase 2 gene transcription comprising:

(a) contacting a Jurkat cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule comprising about 1.9 kb of a cyclooxygenase 2 promoter operatively linked to a reporter gene with a test compound ~~in the presence of a stimulator of human cyclooxygenase 2 gene~~ under conditions that allow the transcription of the cyclooxygenase 2 promoter to be active; and

(b) measuring the expression of the encoded reporter protein ~~reporter gene activity~~, wherein a reduction in the amount of expression of the encoded reporter protein ~~reporter gene activity~~ in the presence of the test compound as compared to the amount of expression of the encoded reporter protein ~~reporter gene activity~~ in the absence of the test compound indicates that the test compound is a transcriptional inhibitor of the human cyclooxygenase 2 gene.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene, beta galactosidase gene, or luciferase gene.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the cyclooxygenase 2 promoter is ~~[[a]]~~ isolated from human promoter.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the stimulator of the human cyclooxygenase 2 gene is ~~[[PMA]]~~ phorbol myristate acetate and an ion.